

House Joint Resolution

A joint resolution proposing an amendment to Section 12 of Article X of the State Constitution; revising rules of construction to be used when interpreting the extent of political power vested in the legislative branch to provide that the expression of one thing does not imply the exclusion of another.

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

That the following amendment to Section 12 of Article X of the State Constitution is agreed to and shall be submitted to the electors of this state for approval or rejection at the next general election or at an earlier special election specifically authorized by law for that purpose:

ARTICLE X

MISCELLANEOUS

SECTION 12. Rules of construction.—

Unless qualified in the text the following rules of construction shall apply to this constitution.

- (a) "Herein" refers to the entire constitution.
- (b) The singular includes the plural.
- (c) The masculine includes the feminine.
- (d) "Vote of the electors" means the vote of the majority of those voting on the matter in an election, general or special, in which those participating are limited to the electors of the governmental unit referred to in the text.
- (e) Vote or other action of a legislative house or other

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governmental body means the vote or action of a majority or other specified percentage of those members voting on the matter. "Of the membership" means "of all members thereof."

(f) The terms "judicial office," "justices" and "judges" shall not include judges of courts established solely for the trial of violations of ordinances.

(g) "Special law" means a special or local law.

(h) Titles and subtitles shall not be used in construction.

(i) In interpreting the extent of political power vested in the legislative branch by the people, the expression of one thing does not imply the exclusion of another.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following statement be placed on the ballot:

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

ARTICLE X, SECTION 12

RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.--Proposing a revision to the rules of construction when interpreting the State Constitution. The revision prohibits the use of the maxim expressio unius est exclusion alterius when interpreting the extent of political power vested in the legislature by the people. This maxim stands for the proposition that the expression of one thing does not imply the exclusion of another.